

#7  
1-14-02  
CASE 4-31268A

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1614

GUITARD ET AL.

Examiner: Weddington, K.

APPLICATION NO: 09/731,139

FILED: December 6, 2000

FOR: USE OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

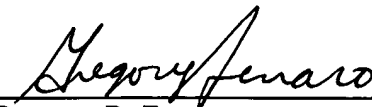
Responsive to the Office Action dated November 7, 2001, for which the time to respond extends to and includes January 7, 2002, due to the attached one-month petition for extension of time, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-9 with traverse. Applicants further elect nateglinide as the hypoglycemic agent to fulfill the Examiner's request for election of a single invention.

[X] A petition to extend this period for one-month(s) until January 7, 2002, is attached.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the Application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests early notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporation  
Patent and Trademark Dept.  
564 Morris Avenue  
Summit, NJ 07901-1027  
(908) 522-6923  
Date: January 3, 2002

  
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